



The City Of San Diego

Councilmember Jim Madaffer

City Council District 7



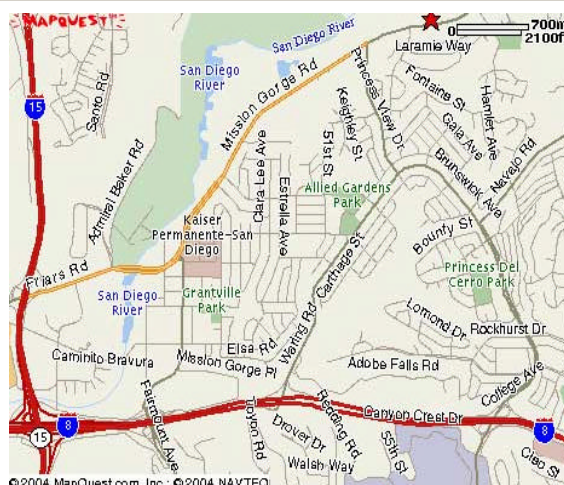
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Grantville Redevelopment Study Area

If you live, work or conduct business in the area of Grantville and Allied Gardens ([map](#)) then you know how terrible the traffic is on Mission Gorge Road especially near Interstate 8. Aside from traffic improvements, there are many other needs as well. The area floods when there are heavy rains, the medians are dilapidated and need to be replaced, the Allied Gardens Recreation Center is antiquated, the community swimming pool needs improvement, the tot lot needs to be modernized and the library is too small to serve the community. Don't get me wrong. These are great communities and, like most places in San Diego, can use some help.

The reality is that infrastructure in and around Grantville and Allied Gardens is not going to improve in the foreseeable future. Sadly, with all the fiscal issues facing our state government and its trickle-down affect on the City of San Diego - from improving police and fire services to resolving the pension fund issue and other matters - there is no money available at the City to take care of these issues. Nor will there be for many years to come. In fact, this has

become a statewide problem that is not unique to San Diego.

Some residents are surprised to learn that for every property tax dollar they pay, the City receives just 17 cents per dollar and the State of California receives the rest. And for every one dollar they pay in sales tax, the City receives only 13 cents and the State takes the balance. The sad reality is that the combined property tax and sales tax we receive does not even cover our City's public safety costs.

Unfortunately things are not getting any better. Over the past decade, the State of California has kept revenues that the City of San Diego traditionally received from your property taxes. Sacramento has done this in an effort to balance its ever growing budget and is doing it again for the next two years. More than \$350 million has been withheld since 1994.

Obviously, our serious budget deficit will require creative solutions. Part of the problem can be addressed by using redevelopment. In a redevelopment area the City receives in tax increments (TI) somewhere between 67 cents and 83 cents per property tax dollar that you are already paying. It is very important to remember that the revenue must be spent in the same area in which it was generated. That means we pay for improvements needed in our community using revenue from taxes. And the best part is - there are no tax increases.

These are reasons why I asked the City to explore the idea of creating a redevelopment area for Grantville and Allied Gardens. The City Council voted on March 30, 2004 to go forward with a survey to see if Grantville and portion of Allied Gardens qualifies as a redevelopment area. It is in the very early stages of the process and I'll keep you updated. [You can view a map of the Grantville Study Area by clicking on this link](#)

In addition, a [more detailed map of the Grantville Study area is found by clicking on this link](#).

Or simply visit the [Grantville Redevelopment area on the City's website by clicking here](#). If you have any questions, please email me at jmadaffer@sanidiego.gov

Fire Rings

The sunny weather and sandy beaches are among the images that come to mind when people think of San Diego. Our beaches are public and there for people to enjoy. It seems to



me that we should do everything possible to ensure that our beaches are attractive and accessible to everyone. And I think the expectation should be that people are responsible and shouldn't jeopardize their ability to use these public venues. The fewer the restrictions the better. Why should the actions of a few result in restrictions for everyone? That is why I don't support a ban on consuming alcohol during the holidays. Nor do I condone consuming alcohol at beaches but I think the focus should be on doing a better job of monitoring those who abuse the privilege. I also don't support the curfew on using fire rings from midnight until 5:00 a.m. In fact I voted against that at the May 11th City Council meeting. Why should the rights of good people be infringed because of people who don't know how to behave? I'm guided by the belief that a minority shouldn't be allowed to spoil it for the majority.



City Manager
P. Lamont Ewell

Meet Our New City Manager and Learn First Hand about the City's Budget

The District Seven Community Budget Forum will take place Wednesday, May 26th from 6:00 until 8:00 p.m. Come meet our new City Manager, Lamont Ewell. He'll be our guest speaker I'll update you on what's happening in our District. Most importantly, you'll hear the latest on the proposed City budget for Fiscal Year 2005.

If you have questions and if you want to help in the decision making process then please plan to attend May 26th from 6:00 until 8:00 p.m at SDSU's Aztec Athletic Center Auditorium. There is plenty of FREE parking at parking structure 5 at 55th and Montezuma.

My thanks to San Diego State University Foundation for sponsoring the event and to Sammy's Woodfired Pizza and Starbucks for providing refreshments. [Click here for a flyer with more information](#). For a [map and parking information, click on this link](#). You can also call my office at (619) 236-6677.



Saluting a Deserving San Diegan -

Charismatic is a word that easily describes District Seven resident Shelia Weiner. She has spent most of her 24-year teaching career working with the students, staff,

parents and community members of Tierrasanta to ensure that De Portola Middle School students receive the best tools for future success. She was recently named the teacher of the year at the annual recognition ceremony held by the San Diego Unified School District on May 11th. Shelia is an inspiring teacher, a Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) teacher, a substitute vice principal and an All Student Body (ASB) advisor. She supports the Parent Teacher Association (PTA) and School Site Council (SCC) as well as coordinates and chaperones fifty 8th-grade students on annual trips to Washington, D.C. and New York. Congratulations Shelia Weiner for a job well done.



Phone Numbers at your Fingertips

Navigating any bureaucracy can be challenging and government is no exception. It's all the more difficult if you don't know which department handles

what services and what number to call. Perhaps I can help by offering you our District 7 Quick Reference Brochure. It is a listing of frequently requested phone numbers. It is organized by topic to make it easier for you to find what you're looking for. From the beginning I've made them available to district residents. Now I'm making it available to you electronically. Hope this helps. [Click here to download a PDF of the District 7 Quick Reference Brochure.](#)

Disappearing Act

What a shame. San Diego is a beautiful city with breathtaking views and yet it is all marred by unsightly overhead wires. Utility lines crisscross the neighborhoods and stand out as an eyesore. We've all been anticipating the time when these overhead lines would be moved underground and we have been working on it. Already, residential areas in Rolando Park are in the process of having their lines moved underground. And in the San Carlos area already you can see progress being made along Jackson Drive between Lakeshore Drive and Lake Murray Boulevard. To minimize the impact, we arranged for another project to take place at the same time. As part of the ongoing undergrounding project on Jackson Drive, now was the time to replace the street lights on Jackson Drive. New street lights will be installed within the Jackson Drive median that will extend over traffic in both directions. The new high sodium lights will vastly improve visibility at night along this heavily used street. Undergrounding is disruptive to be sure but I think residents will find the results were worth the wait.

[If you'd like to read more on what I've had to say about undergrounding, you can read an article on the topic on my website by clicking here.](#)

Targeted and Tagged

The communities are indebted to alert members of the communities and to the Graffiti Task Force for their efforts to keep graffiti miscreants at bay. From Tierrasanta to the Navajo area to City Heights it is a problem. Recently the Del Cerro and Allied Gardens areas were hit including stationary objects such as the Allied Gardens community entrance sign and moving objects such as trucks. Fortunately most of the graffiti was removed immediately. The Graffiti Task Force believes the taggers are from another part of the city that are leaving their "mark" in our neighborhoods. Please help us stop this destructive activity. If you see taggers in action, please call 911. If you want to help, please volunteer to paint out graffiti by contacting my office.

CDBG Funding

Every year at this time each Councilmember has federal Community Development Block Grant funding available to be allocated in their districts. I'm pleased to be able to fund a wide variety of programs especially focusing on those that will help families, improve neighborhoods and stimulate economic development. A variety of diverse project will receive CDBG funding for FY 05 in my district such as funding to the Euclid Revitalization Action Plan (RAP) for completing sidewalks on Euclid Avenue, to the Neighborhood Code Compliance for proactive enforcement of code compliance in City Heights and to Alpha Project for their Take Back the Streets program. The City Council is facing our toughest budget and so it is all the more critical that we are prudent in our allocation of resources. Our focus is on how we can make the greatest good for the greatest number of people.

Happenings in the District

Spring is a busy time of year with many community events taking place throughout the District.

May 22 - Tierrasanta's library turns twenty this year and the Friends of the Library are celebrating. Congratulations to them for realizing their dream of raising \$20,000 in one year in honor of the anniversary. The Friends recently presented a check to the library's manager, Judith Castiano. The funds will be used for childrens' programs and for books. Join the celebration from 3 until 4:30 p.m. at the library which is located at 4985 La Cuenta Boulevard. There will be live music, refreshments, door prizes and a silent auction. For more information call the library at 858-573-1384.

May 22 - [Kumeyaay Elementary School](#) will hold its annual Spring Fling Dinner Dance. The Theme is Casino Night II. There will be casino tables, a sit-down dinner, dancing as well as silent and live auctions. All of the proceeds go directly to the schools student enrichment programs including the music, art, science and technology programs. For more information call the school at 858-279-1022.

May 22 – If you have never been to Mission Trails Regional Park then you'll love Explore Mission Trails Day. It's free and it's a fun way to discover all that the park has to offer. There will be activities and programs all day long such as wagon rides, arts and crafts, musical concerts, storytelling, guided nature walks, mountain biking demonstrations and more. I'm proud to join the Mission Trails Regional Park Foundation and the City of San Diego Park and Recreation Department in sponsoring this event. [For more information, visit the Mission Trails Regional Park website by clicking on this link.](#)

May 23 - The Lake Murray Kiwanis holds their annual Golf Tournament at [Carlton Oaks Golf Course](#). Check in time is 11:30 a.m. and the shot gun start is 1:00 p.m. There is a barbeque dinner at 6:00 p.m. The cost is \$100 and all proceeds are used to benefit the community. For more information contact Charlie Weistermier at (619) 465-4719 or visit [LakeMurrayKiwanis.com](#)

June 5 – Mark the date for the 12th annual International Village Celebration (IVC) in City Heights. The theme is Around the World in a Day.

I wish I could include every single community event but unfortunately I have to limit it to a few each issue. We welcome submissions. For upcoming event you would like to see in the next eNewsletter, please email information to [Leslie Webb](#).

Thanks for reading our eNewsletter!

Best regards,

Jim.

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